

CLAIMS:

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1. A protocol for a portable router framework providing transportation of messages between a main processor having a protocol and packet flow processors having a protocol, the messages transported via a transport media, the protocol comprising:

a Dynamic Routing and Control (DRC) driver including a plurality of Application Program Interfaces (API) for interfacing to the main processor;

a transport interface for interfacing between said DRC driver APIs and the transport media;

a Packet Flow Processor (PFP) driver including a plurality of Application Program Interfaces (API) for interfacing to the packet flow processors;

a transport interface for interfacing between said PFP driver APIs and the transport media; and

said DRC driver and said PFP driver transporting messages between the main processor and the packet flow processors.

2. The protocol of Claim 1 wherein said messages transported between the main processor and the packet flow processors include internet protocol, routing table distribution and control and maintenance messages.

3. The protocol of Claim 1 wherein said PFP driver transports traffic messages between ingress and egress ports of an PFP via the transport media.

4. The protocol of Claim 3 wherein said traffic includes internet protocol and multi-protocol labels(MPLS) traffic.

5. The protocol of Claim 1 wherein said DRC driver translates message format and routing information between the main processor protocol and the transport media protocol.

6. The protocol of Claim 1 wherein said DRC driver includes a routing table including addresses of the PFPs.

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